and 12,287 revision cases respectively are pending before Appellate and Revisional Courts. Since it is judicial process, no definite time for disposal can be given.

Indian pharmaceuticals in US watch list

3198. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the manufacture and distribution of spurious drugs is increasing at an alarming pace and already account for over one-fourth of the pharma business;

(b) whether consequent to the African and Latin American countries' complaints, the US Government has put India under special 301 watch which would have serious implication on the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) As per the feedback available from the State Drugs Control Adminstrations, 36947, 38824 and 36314 samples were tested during the period 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, out of which 112,96 and 125 samples respectively were found spurious which is 0.3, 0.25 and 0.34% of the tested samples.

(b) and (c) The Annual Special 301 Report for 2003, released by the United States Trade Representative (USTR) retains India in the "Priority Watch List" alongwith 10 others countries. India is being kept under this category since 1995. USTR lists countries as "Priority Foreign Country"; "Priority Watch List" and "Watch List". Under US Rules, the USTR is obliged to initiate action against only such countries as are listed under "Priority Foreign Country" and that too only after holding consultations with the Governments of the concerned countries. As such, there is no immediate threat to the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry.

Railway lines running through protected wildlife sanctuaries

3199. SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some railway lines run through protected wildlife sanctuaries and that some animals have died while crossing them;

(b) if so, the number of such accidents and the number of casualities in the last three years;

(c) whether Government have discussed the issue with Railway Ministry to avoid the use of such railway lines;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, how Government would ensure that animals can safely cross railway lines without any danger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) :(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information available for the major species, 1 tiger and 16 elephants have died in 10 such accidents during last three years;

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The issue was taken up with the railway authorities for necessary prevention measures like fencing and imposing a speed limit on trains passing through wildlife habitats.

Approval for production of Bt crop

†3200. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any policy decision with regard to accord approval for production of Bt. crop in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with reasons and basis of taking such a decision;

(c) names of Bt. crops which have been granted approval for their production in the country; and

(d) names of Institutions which have been granted approval for production of such crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV) : (a) and (b) the genetic

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.